

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the amendments and remarks to follow and allowance of the claims of the present application is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejected Claims 25, 28, and 30 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly improperly defined. Claim 30 is further rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as allegedly lacking a specific step in the process.

In response, applicants have amended Claim 25 by replacing “a library of two or more compounds of formula (I)” with “a medicinal screening library comprising at least two compounds of formula (I)” and amended Claim 28 by replacing “a product” with “a pharmaceutical product or kit”. Support for the amendment to Claims 25 and 28 is found throughout the specification and particularly at pages 28, 36 and 59. Inasmuch as the rejections to Claims 25 and 28 are obviated, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph is respectfully requested.

Claim 30 is cancelled without prejudice.

No new matter has been added to the specification.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-12, 19-20, and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. Specifically, Claims 19-20 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement and the enablement requirement. The Examiner asserts that the specification fails to show how to diazotate and subsequently quench a compound of formula (II) to a compound of formula (I).

Applicants respectfully submit that is known to a person with ordinary skill in the art that “diazotation” means reacting primary aryl amines with nitrous acid to make a

diazoniumion. "Quench" refers to a rapid cooling process. Thus, it would not require undue experimentation for a person of ordinary skill in the art to convert formula (II) to (I) via a diazotation reaction followed by subsequent quenching.

The Examiner further asserts that it was not clear what type of a suitable "solid support" could be used to react with a compound of formula (I) to obtain a compound of formula (III) and how a compound of formula (I) could react with a suitable solid support to obtain a compound of formula (III).

Applicants respectfully submit that the type of solid support is well known and how such supports react with formula (I) to form formula (III) is fully supported by the specification, see page 26, lines 1-14.

Further, Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as allegedly lacking enabling support.

Applicants respectfully submit that there is sufficient support in the specification to enable a person with ordinary skill in the art to make and/or use the invention. Specifically, the scope of the compounds is illustrated from page 7, line 14 to page 14, line 30; the synthesis scheme for said compounds is illustrated from page 15, line 1 to page 18, line 14, including the intermediates from page 18, line 15 to page 21, line 2; the application and pharmaceutical use of said compounds are illustrated from page 2, line 13 to page 3, line 18 and from page 4, line 25 to page 5, line 3; the detailed synthesis for individual compounds are illustrated in Examples 1-14 from page 41, line 15 to page 51, line 5; and the pharmacological result of said compounds are illustrated from page 32, line 5 to page 40, line 5.

Accordingly, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, have been overcome and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 19-20, and 24 are objected to under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly indefinite for using the terms such as “diazotation”, “subsequent appropriate quenching”, and “suitable solid support.”

Applicants respectfully submit that it is known to a person with ordinary skill in the art that “diazotation” means that when primary aryl amines are reacted with nitrous acid (HNO_2 , generated from NaNO_2 and H_2SO_4), a reaction occurs which makes a diazoniumion and that a “quench” refers to a rapid cooling process. Regarding the term “solid support”, applicants submit that such term is well defined in the specification on page 17, lines 4-8; page 18, lines 2-9; and page 26, lines 5-14, for example. Applicants further submit that “subsequent solid quenching” is a term that is used constantly in the chemical field and a person with ordinary skill in the art understands such terms without any undue burden.

Accordingly, the rejections of Claims 19-20 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph have been overcome. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-18, 21-23, and 25-29 are objected to under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly lacking novelty in view of Example 9 of US 4,500,525 to Winters (“Winters”).

Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1-12 are directed to a method of treating diseases caused by and/or associated with an altered protein kinase activity, which comprises administering the compounds and derivatives represented by formula (I). The cited compound in Winters possesses cardiotonic, antihypertensive, CNS depressant, neuroleptic, and analgesic activity. Nowhere does Winters disclose the method of use as recited in Claims 1-12. Thus, Claims 1-12 are clearly novel over Winters.

Independent Claim 13 is directed to a pyrrolo-tetrahydro pyridine derivative represented by formula (I) with certain provisos, see page 55, line 21-page 6, line 5.

Specifically, the first proviso on page 55, lines 25-28 provides that when m is 0 and n is 1, R is hydroxy and R₂, R_a, R_b, R_c and R_d are all hydrogen atoms, then R₁ is not acetyl. The compound of Example 9 in Winters is excluded by the proviso in Claim 13. Thus, Claims 13-18, 21-23, and 25-29 are not anticipated by Winters. Accordingly, the rejection of Claims 1-18, 21-23 and 25-29 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) has been overcome and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully submitted.

Claim 29 is rejected under 37 CFR §1.75 as allegedly duplicative of Claim 13 for covering the same subject matter.

Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 13 is directed to compounds having a general formula (I) and that Claim 29 is directed to the use of the compound in claim 13 as a medicament. Thus the scope of said two claims are fundamentally different and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of foregoing amendments and remarks, it is firmly believed that the subject application is in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter I. Bernstein
Registration No. 43,497

Scully, Scott, Murphy & Presser, P.C.
400 Garden City Plaza, Suite 300
Garden City, New York 11530
(516) 742-4343
PIB/YL:dg